

# Torrance Herald



NINTH YEAR

TORRANCE, CALIF., OCTOBER 20, 1922

NO. 41

## SEA OF OIL UNDER CENTER OF TORRANCE

### ROUTE OF SANTA FE ROAD CHANGED TO TERMINATE IN LONG BEACH AND NOT PEDRO

#### Field Engineer Baumgartner Says Road Will Ignore L. A. Harbor—Blames City Council

"We have come to the conclusion that if Los Angeles harbor does not need the Santa Fe railroad, the Santa Fe does not need the harbor, and we are now prepared to build direct to Long Beach from Torrance," was the startling statement made to Secretary Pottinger of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce by J. W. Baumgartner, field engineer of the Santa Fe railway.

Engineer Baumgartner, accompanied by Superintendent of Right-of-Ways George Mettiss visited Torrance Wednesday for the purpose of looking over proposed grade crossings at Arlington and Carson streets and during their short stay in the city were outspoken in their criticism of the Los Angeles city council for the latter's dilatory tactics in withholding the railway's franchise to build their proposed line into the Los Angeles Harbor.

"Patience having long ceased to be a virtue in this case," said the engineer, "we are at present engaged in securing the right of way direct from Torrance to a point near the Long Beach harbor and will pass up Wilmington, and San Pedro."

"If Los Angeles wants us, they have now got to come to us, for we will waste no more time in negotiating with the city council. Eight months this matter has been in abeyance and now our rights of way through to Long Beach are practically secured and an engineering crew at work on the new proposed grades. This new route crosses no Los Angeles streets and we can go ahead and build without consulting the Los Angeles city council."

The exact line of the new route after leaving Torrance could not be learned and whether or not it will include Lomita and Harbor city is a matter of conjecture.

Verbal fur began to fly at the meeting of the Los Angeles city council Tuesday when the delayed matter of granting the Santa Fe a franchise to extend their line to the harbor by way of Torrance, was brought up.

Hardly had Councilman Sanborn who was away on a vacation taken his seat at the councilmanic board when Councilman Mallard asked him: "When is your committee going to report on the Santa Fe's application?" "Soon," replied Councilman Sanborn. "What do you mean, soon?"

### TORRANCE MASONS BUILD

#### Local Masonic Lodge Will Break Ground For \$25,000 Home Tonight

The impressive ceremony of breaking ground for the erection of the new Torrance Masonic Temple near the First National Bank building will be held tonight at seven o'clock, according to notices sent all Masons in this section yesterday by the building committee.

This committee, consisting of R. R. Smith, president; W. A. Renn, vice-president; George W. Towne, treasurer; Paul Dynes, secretary; and George W. Neill, met last night with the architects and final arrangements for the handsome three-story building to cost approximately \$25,000, were completed.

The building, that will be the forerunner of many modern buildings soon to be erected in Torrance, will occupy a lot with a 45-foot frontage and a depth of 100 feet, and will be constructed of brick with a roffed brick frontage.

Taking a radical departure from the modern style of architecture in the building of business blocks, the architects for the Masonic Temple have followed the Elizabethan style that gives the front of the building gables and angles that are most pleasing to the eye, and that will make the complete building an individuality seldom found in smaller cities.

There will be two stores on the ground floor and above these the lodge room, 55 by 45 feet.

Off the lodge room on the east will be one of the most completely arranged club rooms in the South-

### Torrance Laundry Has New Owners

The Big Three Laundry, located on Border avenue near Carson, purchased a few weeks ago by A. H. Strasberger from O. P. Stone has again been sold to three practical laundry men from Los Angeles who will take possession next Tuesday.

The newcomers to Torrance are G. A. Barlow, J. H. Bluenberg, and W. H. Rijo, the latter at present and for several years past foreman of the Empire laundry of Los Angeles.

The new owners will immediately after taking possession install a complete line of the most up-to-date machinery and import a corps of skilled operators. The laundry will in the future be called the Torrance Laundry Company, the owners hoping to fill a long felt want in this and neighboring towns for a first class laundry that will not only give prompt service but turn out a metropolitan produce that will compete with that of any nearby city.

### BUILDING PERMITS

Beginning this week the Herald will publish weekly the amount and kind of building permits issued for the past seven days up to and including Thursday of each week. The figures given are gathered from the records of the City Clerk, A. H. Bartlett.

For the period from October 13 to October 18 the following permits were issued:  
A. W. Henshaw, 2003 Andreo avenue, bungalow, \$2,000.  
E. P. King, 1537 Marcelina avenue, bungalow, \$3,200.  
L. A. Skilling, 1969 Carson street, bungalow, \$3,000.

### PHONOGRAPH EXPERT HERE

J. McDowell, phonograph expert of the Southern California Music Company of Los Angeles, is a visitor this week in Torrance where he will assist Charles Elman in informing the residents of this city of the beauties of the Brunswick phonograph. Demonstrations either at Mr. Elman's store or at the homes of those interested will be gladly given.

Mrs. Marion Welch of Lomita was a guest Friday of Mrs. W. W. Johnson of Carson street.

Mrs. Eugene Boyd and daughters, Dorris and Darrel of Arlington avenue returned Tuesday from a trip to Detroit, Mich., where they visited relatives for three months.

Miss M. E. McCloud and sister of Arlington avenue, are expected home in a short time from Nova Scotia, where they have spent six months with relatives.

Mrs. J. H. Fess and sons were dinner guests of Mrs. R. L. Dinger at Gardena Sunday.

Mrs. Don Vorhis and children of Lomita and Mrs. Roy Flood of Spurlin Court were guests for the day Wednesday of Mrs. J. G. Gay, of south Arlington.

Miss Hazel Chaput, of Los Angeles, was a guest two days this week, of Mrs. T. Wertz.

Mrs. Caroline Streseman, of Huntington, Ind., arrived Saturday to spend the winter with her daughter and husband, Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Tompson of South Andreo. She was accompanied by her daughter Mrs. Geo. Toeffler, of Peru, Ind., who will visit a month in California.

Mrs. H. L. Hall and son, Vernon of Los Angeles were guests last week of Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Woodington.

A correction for the Torrance P. T. A. report last week. It stated that Mrs. Felton was appointed a 2-grade mother, it should have been Mrs. Paul Eby, of Torrance Park.

harbor were also filed with the Council by the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce, the chambers of commerce of all the cities adjacent to Los Angeles, the Associated Jobbers, the Merchants' and Manufacturers' Association and other leading business and civic organizations of the city, but despite this support, the company's application has been seemingly entombed in the files of the Public Utilities Committee.

### KEYSTONE NEWS

Dave Voss and daughter Alice, returned last Monday evening from a trip into Canada. Their main stop was made at St. John's, New Brunswick, with a sister of Mr. Voss's.

E. J. Cogswell arrived Monday evening from St. John's, New Brunswick, Canada, for a lengthy visit with his son, Fred Cogswell, of Naylor street. Fred left St. Johns fourteen years ago and had not seen his father since that time.

Mr. and Mrs. M. Paul Eby, motored to Santa Fe Springs Sunday to look over the new well that had recently come in, and in which they are interested. It was flowing 4000 barrels.

### MERCHANTS HOLD PUBLIC SERVICE 3-3

#### Bell Does Good Work in Box; Meet Wil Sunday

Red Burger, pitching for the Public Service, and "Lefty" Bell, working for Torrance, went eleven innings last Sunday without a decision when darkness called a halt to the game with the score 3 to 3. Both had a world of stuff, each striking out 12 men. Catcher Telis, of Shorty Zinn's club, led both clubs at bat. This exhibition marks these clubs as two of the best in the Manager's Association.

Next Sunday the local team will meet the Wilmington Cubs on the home lot. These two clubs have both been going it strong in the independent ranks and an outright contest is looked for. Put together the locals have the best of it in the pitching, but the Wilmington boys have the heaviest hitters. If Bell outguesses them it will mean another win for us.

### Be It Ever So Humble, She Wanted a Home

Miriam Cooper, who plays the leading feminine role in "Kindred of the Dust," the R. A. Walsh-Associated First National production, is old-fashioned enough to believe there is no place like home. "Be it ever so humble," adds the pretty heroine of dozens of screen romances.

Miss Cooper recently appeared in the leading feminine roles of "The Oath" and "Serenade." "The Oath" was made in New York while "Serenade" was filmed in Los Angeles.

Before the picture was half completed Miss Cooper declared that "be it ever so humble I want a home." And her every spare moment was spent looking for a house until a suitable one was located.

"I can't see how anybody can resist the appeal of the beautiful California bungalow," says Miss Cooper. "No matter how well appointed the hotel service there is no place like home."

"It may be significant," added Miss Cooper, "that the first really big photoplay I appeared in was D. W. Griffith's 'Home Sweet Home.'" Thursday and Friday, October 26-27 at Torrance theatre.

### First Installment of County Taxes Due

The last of the tax bills were mailed to property owners this week from the office of W. O. Welch, county tax collector. Collections began Monday.

One-half the tax on real estate and all the personal property taxes must be paid by Dec. 4 or a 15 per cent penalty will be added. The second half of the real estate assessment will not become delinquent until the last Monday in April.

### BIRTHDAY PARTY

Eighteen young people enjoyed a party last Friday evening, the 13th, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Chas. M. Wynes on south Andreo avenue, celebrating the 13th birthday of their daughter, Beatrice.

The color scheme for the decorations and refreshments were pink and white, a beautiful birthday cake with the corresponding color of candles being the great attraction of the evening, and was served with ice cream and candy. The young people played games and had a most delightful evening. Those attending were Roseline Paige, Cassie Hanson, Frances Haynes, Frances Anderson, Gertrude Anderson, Ellen Given, Iris Bartwell, Dorothy Howe, Jack Reeves, Dale Merritt, Carl Burmaster, Robert Lessing, James Wayt, Newel Wayt, Torrance Swindell, Lex Briney, Merle Bacon, Earl Bacon and Winfrey Waynes.

### ROYAL NEIGHBORS

The Royal Neighbors of America will hold the second evening of 500 of a series of six parties, Monday evening, October 30, at the McKinley Inn on Cota avenue. Card playing will start promptly at 7:45. Admission, 35, light refreshments.

### DIRECTORS MEETING

The regular monthly meeting of the directors of the State Exchange Bank was held Tuesday, with all present except O. B. Kee, who is on a visit in Oklahoma.

The person who is disposed to regard matrimony as a joke should do all his laughing before the ceremony, for he will hardly feel like doing it afterward.

### OPINION OF GEOLOGISTS ON LAKE OF OIL BEING UNDER TORRANCE VINDICATED

#### Investigation Shows Better Grade and Larger Flow As Wells Enter City Limits

Are the big wells of the Torrance oil fields to be drilled east of the western edge of the city limits? And are the opinions of some of the geologists who have reported that a sea of oil lies under the center of Torrance to be borne out by future drilling.

These questions are now foremost in the minds of Torrance residents and investors on the outside.

A survey of the field made this week shows that of the wells already drilled the best are found as one comes east and are in the hollows rather than on the hills. Also the gravity of the wells is higher as one comes east. On the extreme western edge of the field, bordering on the Redondo district, one finds two producing wells, one owned by the General Petroleum and one by the Union Oil company that are producing only 150 and 100 barrels a day respectively. The gravity of the oil is around 14. A half mile east, in the direction of Torrance, and just to the north of Carson street, on a slight knoll, one finds two more producing wells, one belonging to the Amalgamated Oil Company and one to the Fullerton Oil Company. The gravity of these wells averages about 15 while the daily production is around 200 and 250 barrels. A quarter of a mile further east in the hollow south of Carson street is Del Amo No. 1, Chanslor Canfield Midway well, flowing on an average of 600 barrels a day of 22.5 gravity oil.

Coming about one half mile further east and at the edge of the western limits of the city of Torrance is Del Amo No. 2, flowing at the rate of about 300 barrels a day. At times the rate is said to be much higher while there come lull periods when the flow drops off to about 200 barrels. The average production, however, is around the 300 barrel mark. This well is in a depression similar to Del Amo No. 1, and at the present time is the only well besides Del Amo No. 1 in the entire field that is flowing.

Just across the highway from Del Amo No. 2 is Torrance No. 3, drilled by the Standard Oil Company. Its daily production has been around 250 and 300 barrels a day under unfavorable circumstances. While a great many people have believed the well was on the pump, the Standard Oil men manning the well say that the pump is used as an agitator to keep the oil flow under control and that the well

would flow if permitted to. However, fear was expressed that if flow might prove so strong that it would blow out the casing and that that reason is not permitted to get away. The gravity of the oil averages around 20.

The belief exists that the drilling which has been done so far to the west and northwest has been to discover how far in those directions the oil sand extends, and that the oil men are confident of getting their best wells as they came within the city limits of Torrance. This belief will be put to the test by the three wells now being drilled just inside the city limits of Torrance by the Standard Oil and Chanslor Canfield Midway Oil companies. Close to Torrance No. 1 on the Standard lease but further to the east, Torrance No. 2 is being put down. It is now about 1500 feet deep. Just south of Carson street and offset wells to Torrance No. 1, and No. 2 on the Standard tract, Torrance No. 2 and No. 3 are being drilled by the Chanslor Canfield Midway men. There is a race on between these two wells now to see which will be the first to come in. Torrance No. 2, after getting down more than 3,000 feet and after cementing off, ran into mechanical difficulties and had to be reamed and is again near the 3000 foot level. Torrance No. 3, making splendid progress has about caught up with Torrance No. 2.

The men directing the drilling of the Chanslor Canfield Midway wells are confident that Torrance No. 2 and No. 3 will be producers. They made this prediction when Del Amo No. 2, 200 yards directly west, came in as a flowing well.

Apparently not satisfied with their exploration of the western edge of the Torrance field, the Chanslor Canfield Midway company is preparing to drill Del Amo No. 3 about a quarter of a mile west of Del Amo No. 1 and just across Carson street from the Amalgamated, Fullerton and Shell wells. Del Amo No. 3 will be electrically drilled.

On lower ground, near the Amalgamated, Fullerton and Shell wells the Standard Oil Company last Friday spudded in Falkner No. 1 and went down 50 feet the first day.

Clearing the atmosphere like an October rain after a summer's drought, the chamber of commerce meeting held Wednesday evening in the Torrance theatre and attended by from five to six hundred residents of Torrance explained away many perplexing matters that has retarded the growth of the local chamber and reflected adversely on its secretary and board of directors.

Following an excellent program that included a live reel picture and other screen novelties and songs and instrumental features by local talent, Mayor Fitzhugh called the meeting to order and after an explanatory introduction introduced the speakers of the evening.

The first to address the audience was Jim Rhodes, secretary of the Glendale chamber of commerce whose repeated references to the many things accomplished by the Torrance Chamber of Commerce during its short existence and the esteem in which the latter's secretary, H. D. Pottinger, is held by officials of other chambers through out the south, elicited rounds of applause.

Defining the position occupied by a secretary of a chamber of commerce Mr. Rhodes stated that his relation to the board of directors was that of an advisor and that the secretary and not the board was to take the initiative in all matters.

"As one that has had some slight part in making of Glendale the fastest growing city in the United States I feel that I am in a position to judge of the work done by the Torrance chamber of commerce," said Mr. Rhodes, "and it is my unqualified opinion that in the

short time your chamber has been in existence it and it's secretary has accomplished wonders."

Following this complimentary tribute to Pottinger and the local board of directors the speaker took up categorically the different things the Torrance chamber had accomplished.

That the list both surprised and pleased the large audience was shown by the applause that followed.

Following Mr. Rhodes, Mayor Fitzhugh introduced Mr. William Sanders, assistant secretary at Glendale whose short but interesting speech was well received as was the business-like request of Mayor Fitzhugh that everyone present get behind the chamber and boost and not only stimulate the latter's efforts by words of encouragement but call at the chamber immediately and pay their dues.

Directors of the chamber of commerce have arranged an intensive drive for new members and at a meeting held yesterday the following members volunteered their services to assist in any way they could in adding names to the chamber's roster: P. G. Briney, W. H. Gilbert, R. S. Shriner and Mayor James Fitzhugh.

A delightful feature of the evening's program at the theatre and one that went far to get the large audience into a receptive and good-natured frame of mind, was the singing of Mrs. Roy Currier, of Los Angeles, who is visiting Mrs. James Fitzhugh and the delightful violin and song solos of the talented Elman children, Bernice on the violin and sister, Lillian in song.

### THEATRE PACKED WITH CITIZENS